

**MINUTES OF THE FAIRFAX COUNTY
TENANT-LANDLORD COMMISSION**

July 19, 2012

Fairfax County Government Center
12000 Government Center Parkway
Fairfax, Virginia 22035
Conference Room 9
Chair Liff presiding

Attendees:

Commissioners, Liff, Gomez
Geier-Smith, Panettieri, Vogl, McRae,
McEneaney, Kocsis

Absentees:

Kiffney

Staff Attending:

Michael S. Liberman, Director
Cable and Consumer Services
Susan C. Jones, Branch Chief
Consumer Affairs Branch
Vee Johnson, Staff Liaison
Consumer Affairs Branch

Guests:

Investigator Tom Polhemus
Financial Crimes Section
Detective Mike Dean
Criminal Investigation Unit
Fairfax County Police Department

The meeting was called to order at 7:30p.m. by Chair Liff.

Minutes

- A motion was made by Commissioner Geier-Smith to replace the word "less" with "more" under Commission Matters in the minutes. A motion was made to approve the minutes as corrected. This motion was seconded by Commissioner McEneaney and the minutes from June 21, 2012, were approved as amended.

Reports

- Chair Liff did not have a report.

Director's Report

- Director Liberman did not have a report.

Committee Report

- Commissioner Geier-Smith of the Channel 16 Committee received a copy of the 2007 Consumer Focus program along with the script regarding repairs and maintenance.

Staff Report

- The outreach event scheduled for Friday, July 13th at Coffeewood Correction Center has been rescheduled for Tuesday, August 7, 2012.
- Staff will provide a report regarding requirements for homeowners seeking to rent space in a single family or owner occupied dwelling at the September meeting.

Commission Matters

- The calendar was reviewed. There were no changes or additions.

New Business

- The Utilities Branch of the Department of Cable and Consumer Services will share information about ratio utility billing and energy efficiency strategies at the September meeting.
- National Realty Partners, a community association management company, has agreed to share information with the Commission about renters in condominiums. Tentative dates are October 18, or November 15, 2012.
- Investigator Tom Polhemus, Financial Crimes Section, and Detective Mike Dean, Criminal Investigation Unit, of the Fairfax County Police, shared information about rental scams and other fraudulent activities that impact Fairfax communities. Questions were answered and precautions offered to keep citizens aware and alert for fraud and scams.
- A summary of key Tenant-Landlord legislation that became effective on July 1, 2012 was provided. § **15.2-2119** of the Virginia Code, which requires fees and charges for water and sewer service for tenants, was discussed. Staff will provide clarification and email this document to Commissioners.

Old Business

- Staff met with producer Donna Monnaci of Channel 16 on Friday, July 29, 2012. The PSA regarding renter's insurance has been approved. Production plans are being developed.
- The taping for the Consumer Focus program regarding repair and maintenance issues in rental dwellings is scheduled for Friday, September 28th at 1:30 p.m. in suite 133 at the Government Center. Guests from the Department of Code Compliance and the Division of Environmental Health, Community Health and Safety Section of the Health Department have been confirmed. Interviews with Commissioner Geier-Smith and Chair Liff have been requested along with footage of the September 20th Commission meeting. The final program will include a segment on the Tenant-Landlord Commission, a consumer profile, and guest interviews.
- Chair Liff deferred discussion regarding the Consumer Focus program and interview requests until the September meeting. The Commission agreed to allow taping of the September meeting by Channel 16.

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Commissioner McEneaney and seconded by Commissioner Gomez to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.